IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Yoshihito NARITA, Tsutomu INOUE

Application No.: New U.S. Patent Application

Filed: February 19, 2002

Docket No.: 111733

For: FIBER, PROBE AND OPTICAL HEAD OF MULTIPLE OPTICAL PATH ARRAY TYPE AND METHODS FOR MANUFACTURING THE SAME

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to initial examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please replace claim 3 as follows:

3. (Amended) A multiple optical path array type probe manufactured by using the method for manufacturing a multiple optical path array type probe as claimed in Claim 1.

Please add new claim 17 as follows:

-- 17. A multiple optical path array type probe manufactured by using the method for manufacturing a multiple optical path array type probe as claimed in Claim 2. --